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TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS

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JAMES M. HARRIS
JAMES M. HARRIS
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
SPRINGFIELD, VA. 22161

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BURMA

EDITORIAL NOTES SUCCESS IN TACKLING DRUG MENACE

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 16 Dec 76 p 2

[Editorial] The increasing success with which Burma has been tackling the drug menace can be attributed to the concerted assault which is being carried out on all fronts. Attempts to shatter the distribution and transportation network and to deal with addicts and pushers alike have not been without results. Action taken according to law and the expanding facilities for medical treatment have done much to prepare the ground for eventual extermination of what is without doubt one of the deadly habits devised by man.

But that part of the work is only the tip of the iceberg. The most important and what is undeniably the most effective means of battling the threat is at its source of production. In the first instance, this means eliminating the cultivation of opium from whence comes most of the deadly drugs known including the infamous heroin.

To this end Burma has been devoting considerable attention. Search and destroy missions have gone out to seek out plantations and processing laboratories in deep jungles and mountainous areas where access is far from easy. These operations have been conducted wherever possible with the cooperation of the regional peoples. But there are also cases in which hidden plantations and processing laboratories are so inaccessible and heavily guarded that only army columns can penetrate the areas.

Just how much Burma has been able to do under existing limitations is not readily seen not only from our own accounts but from the satisfied comments made by international organizations or by the authorities of other countries.

The most recent is the comment made by the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency. Among other things the Agency in a special report noted that there has been significant progress in controlling the production of illicit opium in Burma. It also paid tribute to Burma's efforts in the worldwide campaign against drug abuse by declaring that Burmese Government has "dramatically stepped up destruction of illicit poppy fields and raids on

trafficking caravans." The DEA report continued to state that during the 1975-1976 cultivation season, the Socialist Republic of the Union of Burma Government destroyed and or forced out of operation 17 heroin laboratories and refineries, intercepted nine large drug caravans and destroyed approximately 18,000 acres of opium poppies.

These actions are believed to have reduced significantly the amount of heroin that would have been available for export from Burma.

Destruction of opium is of course only part of the answer to the problem. For most of the people who do the cultivation work, it is about the most lucrative means of livelihood available in their particular regions. While destruction itself is a necessity, there remains the fact that we cannot remain negligent of the livelihood of the people. If what they do is illegal and therefore must perforce be eliminated, we feel that it is also our duty to see that these people are given an alternative means of livelihood.

This Burma is also doing. The rehabilitation of former poppy growers is an important facet of the campaign. There are sceptics who feel that there is no other crop which provides the same kind of income as provided by the cultivation of opium. Their reasoning is that it would therefore be impossible to wipe out the cultivation of opium. But such sceptics forget that man is well capable of moral education and that except perhaps for a few die-hards, most people would refrain from evil if they are made to appreciate the fact that what they do is in fact evil and also harmful to others.

This is a matter of reorientation, education and rehabilitation which the government has been taking up with increasing effectiveness. In a recent report from Taunggyi, peasants from 27 village-tracts in Pinlaung Township who used to cultivate poppy and were brought under the all-out campaign of Operation Mailon were given agricultural loans totaling K 60,000 for rich farmland made available for their use. They were also supplied fertilizers free of charge and given saplings for 84 acres of fruit trees. With such efforts being made we may look forward to yet greater progress in the future.

CSO: 5300

BURMA

RANGOON DIVISION CONDUCTS NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION DRIVE

Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 1 Dec 76 p 8 BK

[Text] Rangoon, 30 November--Rangoon division conducted a systematic campaign between March and September 1976, under the Narcotics Suppression Program. During this campaign 80 heroin cases, four opium cases, 270 other drug cases, 24 cases under section (D)--against addicts who refuse to undergo treatment--and 120 marijuana cases were recorded. Over 550,060 kyats worth of drugs were seized in these cases.

CSO: 5300

BURMA

REHABILITATION OF EX-POPPY GROWERS

Rangoon THE WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 14 Dec 76 p 1

[Text] Taunggyi, 10 Dec--Peasants in Pinlaung Township who substitute their poppy cultivations with other crops following the "Mailon Operation" staged by the authorities and who now began cultivation of other agricultural crops in substitution received 85 bags of chemical fertilizer distributed to them free of charge by the Township Party Unit President U Tin Ngwe and Township Agricultural Manager Sai Kyaw Ohn Tin yesterday.

The peasants from 27 village tracts in Pinlaung Township also received saplings of fruit trees for planting on 84 acres.

Arrangements were also being made to provide agricultural loans totaling K 60,000 for cultivation of 100 acres of paddyland and 200 acres of farmlands made available as a result of the destruction of poppy cultivations.

CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF CHINA

SIX SUSPECTS ARRESTED IN TAIWAN, HEROIN SEIZED

Taipei CHINA POST in English 12 Nov 76 p 12

[Text] The Investigation Bureau of the Ministry of Justice announced yesterday the roundup of an international narcotics smuggling gang with the cooperation of American and Thai narcotics investigation units.

According to the announcement, 18 pounds of pure heroin were seized in Bangkok and 180 grams of heroin and four kilograms of prohibited drugs were seized in Taipei.

Besides two Thais and one overseas Chinese involved in the smuggling who were arrested in Thailand, six suspects were caught in Taipei after cooperation and thorough investigation.

The bureau was informed by an American narcotics squad that a haul of heroin worth more than US\$10 million would be transported to Taipei from Thailand and then distributed to other countries in early October.

A joint plan was originally drawn up through close connections between Thailand, the Republic of China and the United States for a clean sweep of the law violators in Bangkok, Hongkong, Taipei, San Francisco, and New York, in a raid on their secret hideouts.

The coup de'etat which occurred in Thailand on Oct. 6 prompted arrests in Bangkok. Consequently two Thais, and Chen En-ho, an overseas Chinese in Thailand were seized in Bangkok along with 18 pounds of heroin.

Acting on information provided by American and Thai authorities, the bureau combed every corner of Taiwan to track down the smuggling activities.

The arrests had not been made after two weeks of investigation up to Oct. 29.

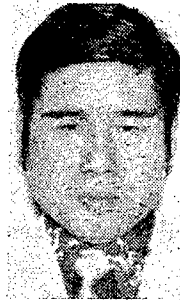
But on that day, a big haul of 180 grams of pure heroin and four kilograms of other drugs which can be used to make 140,000 units of stimulants at a market price of NT\$16 million were seized.

Suspects arrested in the case were Lin Ta-ying, Hsu Hai-chao, Chang Jung-shou, Wang Fu-hsuan, Wu Shao-chun (in photo from left) and Tsai Yu-hsiung (not in photo).

All the suspects were turned over to the Taipei District Court for indictments.



Lin Ta-ying



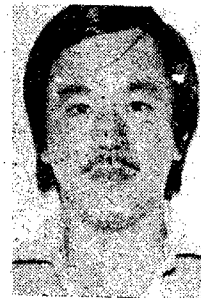
Hsu Hai-chao



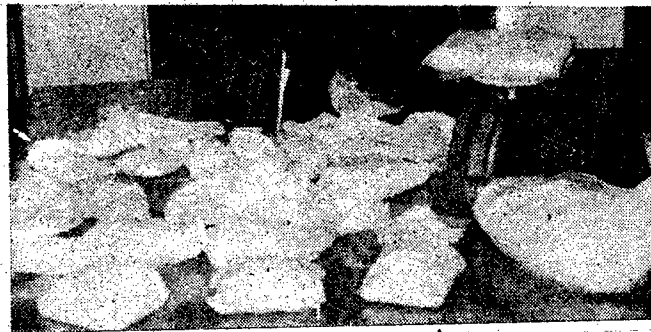
Chang Jong-shou



Wang Fu-hsuan



Wu Shao-chun



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THAILAND

PRIME MINISTER MEETS WITH UNITED NATIONS DRUG OFFICIAL

Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 9 Dec 76 BK

[Text] At 1000 today Pol Maj Gen Phao Sarasin, secretary general to the Narcotics Prevention and Suppression Committee, took the executive director of the UN fund for drug abuse control, Dr J. G. de Beus, and party to Government House to pay a courtesy call on the prime minister and to discuss Thailand's plans and policy on the prevention and suppression of narcotics.

Dr de Beus is here to visit the Hill Tribe Economic Development Projects which were begun in 1973 under a joint Thai Government and UN plan to control narcotics in Thailand. The initial stage of this plan covers 5 years from 1973 to 1977 and consists of three projects: the project to cure and rehabilitate addicts, the project to inform people about narcotics, and the Hill Tribe Economic Development Projects. The United Nations is especially interested in the Hill Tribe Economic Development Projects and has granted special assistance for this purpose. The United Nations also has a plan to encourage the hill tribes to give up the cultivation of opium in favor of other crops. The United Nations has granted assistance worth 40 million baht, while the Thai Government has allocated 4.5 million baht.

The prime minister informed the UN official that it is his government's policy to support the narcotic prevention and suppression project. It considers the suppression and prevention of narcotics to be an important matter and will cooperate in all ways with the project. He said 5.5 million baht has been allocated to the project from the 1977 fiscal budget.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

PAPER SAYS GOVERNMENT SHOULD TAKE OVER DRUG TRADE

Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 17 Dec 76 p 3 BK

[Chainarong column: "This is Politics"]

[Text] In yesterday's column I very briefly touched on the question of whether the government should suppress the narcotics trade by stringently dealing with traffickers and producers, or should do it by conducting the trade itself.

There are three countries which cultivate opium and produce heroin for export without worrying about outside criticism. They are Turkey, Burma, and North Vietnam. Thailand does produce some heroin along the border with Burma, but the important thing is that it is regularly accused of being the source of any heroin seized abroad. Why are the governments of Turkey, Burma, and Vietnam able to cultivate opium and produce heroin without any regard for criticism? The answer is that the governments of those countries are not elected but are military governments that rule in an authoritarian manner and have total administrative, legislative, and military control.

Let us see what these countries gain from trading in narcotics. Burma gets foreign currency for use in the administration of the country despite the fact that it is a closed society. It does obtain income from other export sources, but not nearly enough to develop the country and maintain the armed forces, which are used to suppress various dissident bandit groups.

North Vietnam required huge sums of money to carry on its aggression and fight in 1974 against South Vietnam and the United States in order to successfully unite the country. Where did it get the money? Obviously not from exports. Neither the USSR nor Red China would be likely to support North Vietnam to the extent of it being able to carry on the war for decades.

Turkey's tasks are no less burdensome than those of Vietnam and Burma. Turkey's economy in the past was no better than that of an underdeveloped country. Major nations from the free world and the communist imperialists hoped to increase their influence in that region, and Turkey had to find large amounts of money to build up its armed forces for its own defense. Turkey's present situation is somewhat improved. The United States has granted several hundred million dollars to Turkey for narcotics suppression--suppression which Turkey did not do properly. As for the narcotics trade carried on by the government, Turkey simply tells the world that the narcotics are only for medicinal use.

The position of the Thanin Kraiwichian Government is no different from that of the governments of those countries. It was not elected and it has full power in making decisive economic and social decisions and implementing them quickly. An elective government in Thailand is slow in making decisions, and is afraid to make important decisions for fear of attacks from the opposition. Most importantly, it tends toward corruption, something that does not apply to this government.

If the government wants to engage in the narcotics trade, it can and success will be attained quickly. There is a large gap in the law that allows the government to engage in the business. The law calls for heavy punishment for narcotics producers and persons who possess narcotics, but the same law carries no stipulations prohibiting the trade to be carried out by the state. The government might say the narcotics traded were for medicinal purposes--just as Turkey does. While narcotics are often very harmful, they can also be highly beneficial.

Narcotics are being traded in a serious and rampant manner, and the government cannot fully suppress the trade. If the government conducted the trade itself, enormous income would be derived--enough to be used for national development.

The government can inform foreign countries that the country needs the money for national development. And once the armed forces, the national economy, and people's cost of living have been improved, the trade can be used as a bargaining chip with the superpowers, which could help Thailand become an industrial nation in the future.

If the governments of the superpowers want Thailand to discontinue the trade, the government will have to be decisive and firm in bargaining with them to help provide Thailand with large industries that are capable of transforming our natural resources into export goods. This would improve Thailand's economic situation for its present position.

There is an old saying that if you cannot do a thing one way, try other ways, even if such ways are not respected. The government has a right to apply this adage if it is not happy with the present economic recession.

THAILAND

BRIEFS

UK ENVOY THREATENED--The BANGKOK POST has learned that special security precautions are being provided for H. E. the British ambassador, Sir David Cole, over the past few days. It is understood that because of a threat, coming from narcotic circles, against the safety of the British ambassador, the Royal Thai authorities are taking the necessary steps to safeguard the security of the ambassador and his embassy. When contacted, the British embassy declined to comment. Police chief Gen Montchai Phankongchun told the BANGKOK POST yesterday that additional police forces from the Special Branch Division and local police stations have been providing round-the-clock protection for the British ambassador at the embassy and his residence. Gen Montchai noted that the British ambassador, like all other foreign diplomatic mission heads here, has been accorded normal protection in the past but that extra-security measures have been provided during the past few days. Security personnel despatched to take charge were instructed to send in regular reports about any incident. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Dec 76 p 1 BK]

AGE DECLINE OF DRUG USERS--More than 350,000 narcotics users are under 25 years of age, Or Arun Chawanasai, a member of the Committee to Prevent and Suppress Narcotics Addiction in Schools, announced yesterday. The average age of drug users has gone down from 40 to under 25. The reasons are the availability of cheap narcotics, Arun stated. In addition, drug users usually have psychological or family problems that led them to depend on drugs for releasing frustration. At present, there are two hospitals in Bangkok, Phra Mongkut Klao, and Thanyarak hospitals, which treat drug addicts. In the provinces, there are four hospitals, Anantha Mahidon Hospital in Lop Buri, Suarnari Hospital in Korat, Naresuan Hospital in Phitsanulok, and Sun Pranburi Hospital in Pranburi. "We are facing a shortage of doctors for narcotic suppression," Arun pointed out. He explained that some hospitals can take not more than 40 patients a time, while about 400 patients need their services. To solve this problem, hospitals have established a new system called MOD [methadone outpatient detoxification] which treats patients without having to let them stay at the hospitals. From 200-300 patients can be treated by this method, Arun stated. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Dec 76 p 1 BK]

DRUG TRAFFICKER SENTENCED--The Criminal Court yesterday sentenced an alleged drug trafficker to 66 years and 8 months imprisonment after he was found guilty of attempting to smuggle out heroin. Phum Bonwong was arrested by Crime Suppression Division police last April. On March 22, Don Muang Airport customs officers seized about eight kilograms of No 3 heroin found in suitcases belonging to Phum, who was scheduled to board a flight to Copenhagen. Phum vanished during the search. [Text] [Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 14 Dec 76 p 1 BK]

NEW NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION OFFICE--Draft royal decree organizing an Office of the Commission on Narcotics Prevention and Suppression was approved by the cabinet at its meeting yesterday. The office will be composed of a secretariat and divisions in policy and planning, foreign affairs, information, inquiries and [word indistinct] legal affairs and scientific detection and coordination and inspection. [Excerpt] [Bangkok Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 9 Dec 76 BK]

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BOLIVIA

BOLIVIA SEEN AS BASE OF DRUG PYRAMID

La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 12 Nov 76 p 9 PY

[Text] Roberto Valda said yesterday during a lecture that Bolivia, as a cocaine producing country, was chosen by the international "Mafia" to be the ideal supplier of cocaine, due to the low prices and because of its extensive borders that are difficult to patrol. He pointed out that for these reasons Bolivia was a victim of the international drug traffic.

The course on drug addiction, sponsored by the Narcotics Department and the press association, will conclude today. Attendance certificates will be distributed to the press, radio and television reporters who attended the lectures of the experts and professionals on the subject. Members of the Dangerous Drugs Control Department will attend the closing ceremony and will answer the reporters questions.

Valda said yesterday that "the pyramid of drug consumption and traffic has its peak in the international 'Mafias' of New York, Los Angeles, Miami, Amsterdam, Frankfurt and London, and then the Latin American Mafia from Bogota, Panama, Mexico and La Paz, which is followed by the 'local Mafia'" located in Santa Cruz and La Paz, made up of people of economic power, and its base in the traffickers and peddlers, the cocaine laboratories and coca planters.

Valda added that this crime can be found in all social levels under the stimulation of an erroneous concept of life, with the only objective of becoming rich in a short period of time, without working and without any social or moral principles. He said these people do not take under consideration the damage that this type of activity can cause to themselves or their families.

Valda said that this type of activity causes the destruction of the drug trafficker's family, since the members of his family are under a constant uneasiness, and when the police arrests the trafficker the family begins a long ordeal, finally ending with a sentence of 20-25 years in prison.

CSO: 5300

BOLIVIA

PLANS TO REPLACE COCA PLANTING UNDERWAY

La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 16 Dec 76 p 7 PY

[Text] A work plan aimed at establishing a pilot program for the rationalized planting of coca will be carried out next year by the Campesino and Agrarian Affairs Ministry.

The report was issued by Agrarian Affairs Undersecretary Boris Marinovick.

Marinovick explained that during the pilot program of investigations to be carried out will be aimed at the introduction of growing spices, a variety of vegetables and other plants to replace coca planting. Based on this it will be determined which variety of plants are best adapted to the region.

Once these varieties are established the best methods and farming seasons will be determined along with their cost.

It was noted that based on the present demand and information available about these agricultural products there will be an emphasis on the development, establishment of production activities and sanitary controls as immediate priorities for the task of the substitution project.

Marinovick stated that as complementary aspects of the research project, greenhouses may be established in the areas of Polea, (Inquisivi) and Apolo for the production of economically useful regional plants. The access road to the Coroico Experimental Station, (17 km) will be completed; the botany laboratories in the Chulumani Greenhouse and the Phytopathology Entomology Laboratories in the experimental stations of Chipririri and Coroico will be finished.

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BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--The Narcotics Division of the Interior Ministry reported in Santa Cruz that the Percy Brothers and Juan Carlos Chavez were arrested in Montero, 50 km north of the city, for trafficking in cocaine. A machinegun and an automatic pistol were found in their possession. The police are now looking for Hernan Chavez Paz, who is the main provider and producer of the cocaine. In another operation, in Nigua, Ichilo Province, the police dismantled a cocaine factory which was in full operation and using raw material from Chapare. The factory belonged to Agapito Herrera and Primitivo Vaca. Radio communications equipment was seized and it is presumed that the drug traffickers used preestablished codes to send messages. [La Paz PRESENCIA in Spanish 22 Nov 76 p 6 PY]

COCAINE LABORATORY DISCOVERED--Oruro, 24 Nov--Another cocaine laboratory was discovered at an unspecified place in Oruro Department. It appears that the laboratory was functioning for a long time and that its production was periodically exported to Chile. Several persons were arrested and are being held for questioning. [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 25 Nov 76 p 8 PY]

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Santa Cruz, 24 Nov--Personnel of the drug section discovered a cocaine laboratory in downtown Santa Cruz City and arrested two of the owners, Mario Guzman, 18, and Maria Jesus Mendez, 60. The laboratory functioned for a year and the owners both produced and marketed the drug. [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 25 Nov 76 p 9 PY]

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COSTA RICA

BRIEFS

JAIL TERM FOR DRUG TRAFFICKER--Omar Solano Salas, otherwise known as "Oso" or "Boleta," has been sentenced to 6 years in jail. Solano is considered by the narcotics bureau to be one of the country's leading drug traffickers. [San Jose, Costa Rica LA NACION in Spanish 11 Dec 76 p 10 A PA]

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

ARTURO DURAZO MORENO ASSIGNED TO INNOCUOUS POST BY JLP

Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 4 Dec 76 pp 1, 13

[Excerpt] Among other appointments announced yesterday by President Jose Lopez-Portillo was that of Arturo Durazo Moreno as director general of the Traffic and Police Department (DGPT) of the Federal District.

Durazo, a long-time friend of the president, was born in Cumpas, Sonora, on 18 October 1922. He began his primary school education in Ensenada and completed them at the "Benito Juarez" school in Mexico City. His secondary schooling was completed in Secondary School No 3, in the capital, and he then went on to take his professional training in the Business and Administration School of the National Polytechnical Institute (IPN).

Durazo was an official of the Banco Mexicano [sic--Banco de Mexico?] for 4 years. From 1948 to 1950, he served as a special traffic inspector and, 10 years later, entered the Federal Security Directorate (DFS), where he attained the grade of major (comandante).



Later, he was assigned to the city of Chihuahua where, under Gen Antonio Guerrero, he served in the Transportation and Cargo Company. Finally, in 1962, he was reassigned to Federal Judicial Police, of which he was the commanding officer until last Thursday.

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PERU

BRIEFS

DRUG ARRESTS--Lima, 11 Dec--Authorities here have announced the arrest of two Colombians, Arturo Vasquez Vasquez and Jesus Munoz Garces, and three Peruvians, Enrique Cabieses Lopez, Salfaredo Choy Andrade, and Luis Vargas Cabieses, on charges of operating cocaine processing laboratories at Puente de Piedra and Cieneguilla, on the outskirts of Lima. The police have established that the drug was being marketed in the United States. [Buenos Aires LATIN in Spanish 1601 GMT 11 Dec 76 PA]

COCAINE LABORATORIES DISCOVERED--Huancayo, Peru, 7 Dec--The Junin police have discovered five clandestine cocaine laboratories where 6.5 million soles worth of cocaine paste was being processed. The cocaine laboratories were located in Chupaca at a house owned by Fabian Ochoa Salguiran, and in the districts of Pazos, El Tambo, Sapallanga, and Ahuac. The owners of the houses have been arrested. [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 11 Dec 76 p 21 PA]

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NETHERLANDS

EXECUTIONS IN AMSTERDAM CHINESE HEROIN JUNGLE

Amsterdam DE TELEGRAAF in Dutch 6 Nov 76 p 21

[Article by Henny Korver: "Heroin Strife Nowhere So Merciless as in Amsterdam"; all Chinese names as given in the original text]

Hired assassins execute people without batting an eyelash. In fact, executions are the order of the day in the Chinese heroin jungle of Amsterdam and for miles around.

During this year already five Chinese were "executed" in a gruesome manner. A 22-year-old girl-heroin runner called Moo Pen who used to operate in Amsterdam is now missing without a trace. The police suspect that she, too, has been murdered.

The fatal orders are usually carried out by hired assassins.

On Tuesday the Alkmaar Court will resume the case against the three Chinese who strangled Sau Fan Chang, an 18-year-old girl-heroin runner near Akersloot during the night of 14-15 March.

Our reporter, Henny Korver, put together the story of the shocking events in the struggle for power among the Chinese; he has come to the conclusion that nowhere in the world is this struggle being waged as fiercely and mercilessly as in Amsterdam.

Amsterdam, Saturday. Until 1974, things were peaceful in Amsterdam's "Chinatown." After that they were no longer peaceful:

31 August, 1974: The Chinese heroin-king, Yong Fatt Tang, is dragged out of the "IJ" [Amsterdam Harbor], his body riddled with bullets.

3 March, 1975: Chung Mon, 54, alias "The Godfather," alias "Mr Big," is shot to death by two Chinese in front of his restaurant and gambling den, Si Hoi, situated on Prince Hendrik Quai.

20 May, 1975: Two Chinese are killed in an armed raid on this same gambling den.

17 February, 1976: The body of the "Fifth Son of Li" is found in the shrubbery beside the Harstenhoek Road in Scheveningen. It appears that he had been executed on 29 November, 1975 in a rented car on the road to The Hague, near the tunnel leading to Schiphol Airport.

3 March, 1976: Yen Muk Chang, 45 years old, better known as "Mao," is liquidated in the Inner Bantammer Street. [Central Artery of Chinatown]

15 March, 1976: The body of the 18-year-old San Fan Cheung, girl-heroin runner, is found along the Haarlem-Alkmaar Freeway near Akersloot. She appears to have been strangled.

22 April, 1976: A 38-year-old Chinese named Yee Kee Ho from Hong Kong, nicknamed "Fat Boy," is killed with three bullets from a revolver, in the gambling den called Yo Hi in Inner Bantammer Street.

17 June, 1976: After a raid by a group of Hong Kong Chinese on nine Singapore Chinese, the Amsterdam Narcotics Squad discovers that the 22-year-old girl heroin runner, Moo Pen, is missing. No trace is found. The prognosis of the Criminal Investigation Department is: "Probably she has been murdered near Akersloot in much the same way as San Fan Cheung was."

20 October, 1976: Along the Breedzand Dike near the Afsluit Dike [major dike crossing the Zuider Zee], the bodies of two girls--19-year-old Jenny Yip and 24-year-old Kam Lan Chan--are dragged out of the frigid waters. The victims are still bound, and it appears that both have been shot through the head.

The conclusion of this bizarre enumeration, which could be amply lengthened with more fatal shootings, raids and blackmail, is: Nowhere in the world is the fight for control of the gigantic profits from heroin being fought more bitterly and mercilessly among the Chinese than in Amsterdam.

Commissioner Gerard Toorenaar, chief of the Metropolitan Criminal Investigation Department, says with a grim face: "There may be other Chinese who have been murdered and buried somewhere, without our knowing anything about it." It is as simple as that.

And the end of the war among the "triads," those mysterious Chinese crime syndicates, is not yet in sight in Amsterdam. One vendetta triggers off another. Commissioner Toorenaar,

this country's number-one heroin opponent, says on this subject: "We are already wondering what will appear on our blot-
ters next after the double murder at the Afsluit Dike."

In the tough, merciless struggle for power in the heroin trade, the phenomenon of hired assassins is striking in its frequency.

Up to three years ago, Dutch criminal investigators had done no more than read about that sort of murderer in detective stories or seen them in movies.

That was until 3 March, 1975, when 54-year-old Chung Mon, the uncrowned king of the Chinese of Amsterdam, with such nicknames as "The Godfather," "Mr Big," and Fokkie Lang ("afraid of no one"), got the worst of it, in full daylight, in front of his restaurant and gambling den/travel agency on Prince Hendrik Quai. He was murdered in cold blood by two Chinese with conspicuously short hair.

Later the Investigation Department found out that the two had flown over especially from Hong Kong with specific instructions to silence "Mr Big" for good. Reward: 10,000 guilders each, plus free travel and expenses. Cool killers who carried out their instructions without batting an eyelash, then flew back to Hong Kong on a free ticket after the job was done.

They are probably still there. The Amsterdam Narcotics Squad knows the precise identity of the two hired assassins. "But," says Commissioner Toorenaar, "Try to look for two criminals who have immersed themselves in a city like Hong Kong with its four million people. It is like looking for a needle in a haystack."

The important lesson which the murder of "Mr Big" taught the Amsterdam Police: "Why, we always thought that such murders by hired assassins only occurred far away from our hearthsides, but now it is happening here, too."

Sinister happenings followed one upon the other in rapid succession. The most shocking facts were: The execution of the "Fifth Son of Li," a young Chinese, in a rented car near the tunnel to Schiphol Airport, the murder by strangling of San Fan Cheung, girl heroin runner, also in a rented car on the Haarlem-Alkmaar Freeway, and the twofold murder of Jenny Yip and Kam Lan Chan, whose bodies were found along the Afsluit Dike. These murders came to light last month.

Another gruesome event happened in connection with the execution of the "Fifth Son of Li": his dead body was not found until three months later in Scheveningen, but before the police fully realized that he was indeed missing, the fellows in his triad

had already taken revenge on the triad they suspected of the murder. This happened as follows: In a gambling den on Gerrard Street in London's Soho district, a restaurant owner named Wong was beaten to death in a grisly way, in the presence of thirty Chinese gamblers, by a gang known by Scotland Yard as "The Li Brothers," some of whose members had domiciles in the Netherlands.

In the night from 14 to 15 March of this year, three young Chinese were riding in a rented car on the Haarlem-Alkmaar Freeway. With them was the still younger Sau Fan Chang, only 18 years old.

She had to disappear from this earth because she broke the iron-clad law of the triad. She allegedly failed to hand over to the syndicate the sum of 45,000 guilders she had received for a heroin delivery. She was strangled in the car and thrown out near an overpass in the vicinity of Akersloot. The police solved this case with great energy.

In the Alkmaar Court the three suspects outdid one another in the vagueness of their testimonies. Wai Au Yeng, 22, denied having strangled the girl. He attempted to throw the blame on his fellow passenger, Lie Hung Chan, 20, declaring: "When Chan put the cord around her neck, I thought he only wanted to scare her." But Chang himself, who had also had an affair with the victim, said that purely out of compassion he had withheld from playing the executioner. Compassion? Chan declared before his judges: "I had already pulled the cord around her neck. When she started to cry and call me by name, I lost the courage to strangle her." But the 25-year-old driver, Tak Lam Lan, called out: "Go on! This is the moment."

The exact role played by each of the subjects thus remains vague, but the Alkmaar Court will resume the case next Tuesday. It is a gruesome case, adjourned the first time because of uncertainties about the post-mortem examination. Perhaps the upcoming hearing will reveal a little more about the big men behind the scene, who--there is practically no doubt--commissioned the three young Chinese to commit the murder.

"It has become quite clear," says Commissioner Toorenaar, "that the hired assassins do not take any risks in carrying out their instructions. The victim must be killed. Therefore they nearly always operate in groups of at least two, and if the execution is to be done with firearms, one shot is seldom reckoned enough; usually the bodies are riddled with bullets."

In the murder of 19-year-old Jenny Yip and that of 24-year-old Kam Lan Chan, both residents of Amsterdam's Chinatown, killed near the Afsluit Dike, it appeared that the murderers had first fired a pistol shot right through the temples of their bound victims and had subsequently administered a coup de grace.

In this most recent case the delinquents have vanished into thin air, and as yet, the police have no lead whatsoever.

But we would be giving the police too little credit if we said that they are not having much success in the fight against the mysterious and extraordinarily secret triads.

Most of the murders in the heroin jungles could be solved. Just last week Chief Inspector Ton Hoegee, chief of the Amsterdam Murder Squad, with Detective Arie Damsteeg, travelled to Hong Kong (this has now come to be a normal business trip for the officers of the Amsterdam Police) in order to arrest Lam Cheung Wing, a Chinese from Singapore. He is considered the main suspect in the case of the execution of the "Fifth Son of Li" near the tunnel to Schiphol Airport.

A case in which the police have been quite unsuccessful up till now is the execution of the powerful heroin dealer, Yen Muk Chang, alias "Mao," on 3 March of this year, in Inner Bantammer Street--exactly a year to the day after the murder of "The Godfather," Chung Mon. Chang had to be put to death after a spectacular robbery of 20 kgs of heroin (value: 2.5 million guilders) stolen by his triad from a group of Singapore Chinese.

The double murder at the Afsluit Dike is not very likely to be solved, either. Here the investigation is being carried on by the detective squad of the National Police based in the district of Leeuwarden, in close cooperation with the narcotics experts from Amsterdam. "But," says Commissioner Toorenaar: "this case is still new. I am not terribly pessimistic. After all, we must have a lot of patience in handling internecine Chinese affairs such as this."

Amsterdam is doubtless the only city in Europe where so many triads are functioning. One called "K-14" (after 14-carat) is the largest triad in Amsterdam's Chinatown. Perfectly organized, it has its own rituals and hierarchy.

Sze Lam Li, for instance, the man who liquidated 38-year-old Yee Kee ho, alias "Fat Boy," in Amsterdam's oldest opium den, Sap Lo, with three bullets from a revolver, recently told the court that he is very proud of his title: the "fighter" of K-14.

On 22 April he entered the gambling den with a handkerchief over his eyes. He asked the five Chinese present: "Do you know who I am?" They did not answer, and he said: "Go on smoking without fear. I will not harm you." He then waited patiently for Yee Kee Ho's return home. Yee, who had been out to a movie, met death upon his return, in the small kitchen of the opium den. It was a revenge brought about because of a financial conflict regarding a parcel of heroin.

Until 1974, Amsterdam's Chinatown was peaceful. Then the flame leaped into the pan. The reasons: The War in Vietnam came to an end, new markets for heroin had to be developed, and Amsterdam became one of the most important links in the world trade because of its favorable location and its large Chinese community.

Here, of all places, the struggle for power flamed up in all its intensity, a struggle which, according to American experts, is recently being intensified by the efforts of the all-powerful Khun Sa, a Chinese who has organized a complete hired army in the famous drug-producing region called the "Golden Triangle" (on the borders of Thailand, Burma and Laos) in order to safeguard the gigantic opium traffic.

Commissioner Toorenaar is at a loss for words about this matter. He does know that the number of Chinese in Amsterdam is growing more rapidly than the number of detectives. He says: "It is just like a cascade." Moreover, the Amsterdam commissioner finds it typical that the Chinese have never molested or threatened the police, despite the brutal force with which they operate themselves.

"I have on occasion posed such a question point-blank to one of these fellows. Something like: 'You murder each other as if it were nothing at all. But you leave the authorities unharmed.' Do you know what he replied? 'Sir, we are guests here, and guests do not harm their hosts!'"

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TWO CHINESE ARRESTED FOR SMUGGLING NARCOTICS

Oslo AFTENPOSTEN in Norwegian 7 Dec 76 p 25

[Text] The two Chinese from Singapore who were arrested at Fornebu on Saturday morning with 16 kilos of heroin hidden between the double bottoms of four suitcases were ordered jailed for 6 weeks with no visits and no letters by the court of inquiry in Sandvika yesterday. Only one of them, the 25-year old Lee Hon Meng, admits that he knew he had something "illegal" in his luggage. The other, 23-year old Heng Soo Kiah, says he had no idea what the suitcases contained and he has repeatedly offered to cooperate fully with the police. The explanations the two have given the police so far are somewhat contradictory. For that reason and for other reasons connected with the investigation the police are unwilling to provide us with many details. But it can be safely assumed that the Chinese were couriers for a large, professional narcotics syndicate.

On the other hand the two slightly-built young Singapore Chinese who were brought to the court of inquiry yesterday hardly seem the type of people one would connect with professional international narcotics smugglers who would fly halfway round the world with illegal substances worth between 15 and 20 million kroner in their baggage.

The older one expressed his earnest hope that his mother wouldn't find out about his arrest in Norway while the other kept repeating that he had never been in trouble with the police before either when he lived in Singapore or when he was in military service. He said he was ready to do anything he could to help the police clear up the case. He seemed overcome and dispirited and when he was presented in court he looked as if he were having withdrawal symptoms from drug abuse. But both he and his comrade have told the police that they do not use drugs and never have.

The court appearance in Sandvika was conducted with the help of two interpreters. The two accused men spoke in Cantonese. This Chinese

dialect was translated to English by an American of Chinese descent and the other interpreter translated from English into Norwegian.

Poor

The passports of the two Chinese have been confiscated and the police will now check whether they are genuine and show the true identities of the men. The passports have no stamps from previous trips to suggest that the two have been in Norway or elsewhere in Europe since they were issued. The older of the two accused men has stated that both of them belong to the segment of the Singapore population that could be considered very poor. As occupations, one of them gave seaman and the other chauffeur.

There were no details in the preliminary report as to where or how the two young Chinese came in contact with their taskmasters. But it is quite clear that they were not acting on their own. It takes capital, organization and a network of contacts to obtain such a large quantity of heroin and smuggle it to Europe for further sale. The older of the two accused men said that the man who gave him the suitcases said to bring them to Copenhagen or Denmark.

But the two Chinese had plane tickets from Bangkok to Oslo. This was the final destination and the Chinese had open return tickets with them. The question the police must ask is this -- did the smugglers have a contact point in Norway or was the intention to smuggle the substance out of Norway via other means? If there are contacts in Norway it must be assumed that the narcotics shipment was to be deposited here for a shorter or longer period of time before it was needed on the Swedish or continental market. In Norway there is no market for that much heroin -- at any rate not today and hopefully there never will be.

One Thousand Dollars

When the two Chinese were arrested on Saturday the police confiscated about \$1000 in American currency from each of them. When they appeared in court yesterday, the 25-year old Lee Hon Meng asked if he could send his share of the cash back to his mother in Singapore. She is very poor and has to have an operation. But it will be several days before anything is decided about the money. At the moment the police want to keep the money to use as evidence. This matter will be discussed with their defense lawyer, appellate court advocate Arvid Fossum, in the near future.

The four suitcases in which the heroin was hidden have been partially dismantled by the police and the plastic in the double bottoms has been cut open to show the cavity into which a number of plastic bags containing heroin were stuffed.

The camouflage was so skillful that one almost has the impression that the false bottom must have been there all along, ever since the suitcases came from the factory. Inspection shows that the strip around the edge of the suitcases was removed, the lining loosened and a new lining pressed over the old after the heroin had been inserted. The edging was then replaced over both the new and the old sections and the lining replaced.

Many narcotics experts fear that Europe is on the verge of a heroin epidemic of the same type that ravaged the United States in the Sixties. Most of the drugs come from the East and are shipped from Bangkok -- as was the case with the shipment seized at Fornebu. Some time ago two Chinese were arrested at the Fiumicino airport in Rome with about 20 kilos of heroin of the same type as that found in Oslo -- the grayish-brown semirefined heroin that goes under the name of "No 3" or "brown sugar." In Rome the drugs were concealed in carved elephants and pagodas. Brown heroin, which contains approximately 40 percent pure heroin, is most used for smoking while the more refined "No 4" which contains 90 percent heroin is used by main line addicts.

In those countries on the continent long troubled with Chinese heroin -- already called the Chinese Connection -- supervision of Chinese flight passengers is very strict. Every Chinese who leaves an airplane is checked thoroughly -- especially if the plane comes from Bangkok.

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TURKEY

BRIEFS

WEST GERMAN SMUGGLERS SENTENCED--A West German brother and sister caught trying to smuggle hashish were sentenced to death by the first high criminal court of Izmir. However, the court commuted their sentences due to mitigating circumstances. The brother will serve a life sentence and the sister will serve 16 years and 8 months. (Angelo) and (Angela) (Winkler) tried to leave the country on a ferryboat from Izmir. Some 24 kilograms of hashish were found hidden in their car. The hashish was from a foreign country. The verdict was given today. [Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1700 GMT 14 Dec 76 TA]

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END